STOP HUNTINGDON ANIMAL CRUELTY

Newsletter 2

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71 DOGS RESCUED FROM HLS'S BEAGLE SUPPLIER

1ST NATIONAL DEMO SUCCESS

HLS's share price graph

NATWEST FEELING THE HEAT

AS STORM CLOUDS GATHER OVER HLS...

THEY AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET!

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

The campaign's first national demo at Huntingdon gets off to a flying start!

Saturday 11th December 1999. What a demo to kick off the new campaign against Huntingdon Life Sciences.

About 500 people descended on Huntingdon to voice their protest as loudly as possible.

The demonstration was intended to be at the gates of HLS. In the week running up to the 11th, HLS spent thousands of pounds on razor wire and new security cameras but there was a last minute change of plan.

The reason for this change was that a section 14 order was issued by Cambridgeshire police. The order would basically have forced peaceful protesters to meet in the middle of nowhere at Alconbury Truck Stop. Then we would have been marched over a mile down a deserted country lane and not even been allowed as far as the gates of HLS. We would not have been seen or heard by anybody. That would have suited Cambridgeshire police just fine. Remember how they treated people who were protesting against the visit of the Chinese president, the police strategically placed several large police vans in front of the demonstrators to hide them from the view of the president.

Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty press-released at 11:30 on the morning of the 11th and announced that the demonstration was cancelled and a public meeting had been called in Huntingdon town centre (Section 14 doesn't cover public meetings).

12 Evening News, Monday, December 13, 1999

NEWS

Large crowd . . . Hundreds gathered to protest against Huntingdon Life Sciences.

Police presence . . . Police turned out in numbers at the demonstration.

Town hit by lab protesters

Words by Beth Hale
Pictures by Gareth Fuller

PROTESTERS from throughout Britain made Huntingdon Life Sciences the focus of a large-scale demonstration on Saturday.

Police had been expecting up to 1,000 animal rights activists to march to the research laboratory.

In the end, about 300 people gathered for a noisy but peaceful demonstration in the town, which lasted for four hours. Some arrests were made during a separate protest in Ramsey when a car was damaged.

Fifteen people were arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to commit criminal damage. In total, 17 people were charged with public order offences and have all been bailed to appear at Huntingdon Magistrates' Court on Wednesday.

A 600-strong police operation was mounted to control the main protest, with 500 officers from Cambridgeshire and nearby counties on standby, including mounted police from Nottingham.

The Cambridgeshire Police helicopter was also in use during the day.

Demonstrations began at Alconbury truck stop from noon, but moved to the town after protesters were faced with a large police presence.

Heather Jacion, spokeswoman for Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty, told the *News* the protest would become a national demonstration every six to eight weeks at the site.

She said: "This is a big step up in the campaign, and it will be stepped again."

Supt Wally Haddow, who commanded the police operation, said: "In the absence of any contact with protest organisers, despite our repeated attempts to do so, we assembled sufficient officers to cater for what we had been told to expect by the protesters and what they had promised elsewhere in the country before – a massive demonstration.

"Publicity material released in advance suggested this demonstration would take place at Huntingdon Life Sciences. Instead the protesters chose, at the last minute, to gather in Huntingdon town centre."

He said he regretted any inconvenience to residents and shopkeepers, and called the action of protesters in holding up traffic "irresponsible".

He added: "Up until the final hours, the demonstration passed without any major problems, and while we regret that a disturbance at the end of the day resulted in a number of people being arrested, they were all made for a good reason."

Mayor Susan Malcolm, who was away from Huntingdon on Saturday afternoon, said she had returned to phone calls about the protest causing chaos in the town.

"I've had comments from people who said it was bad enough with the weather putting people off coming into Huntingdon, let alone the protest as well," she said.

"The trade just disappeared, and shopkeepers were not happy. They didn't mind the protest, it was the disruption it caused."

Strong feelings . . . a masked protester in the streets of Huntingdon. above. Below: police lead away a protester.

Making the point . . . a protester speaks to the crowd with a tannoy. below, as police keep a close watch on the demonstration. above.

It didn't take long for the crowd to gather in Huntingdon and a sound system was hastily set up. Leaflets were distributed to shoppers passing by and Bev was let loose with a megaphone and did her usual excellent job of informing people of the facts, and inspiring the crowd to chant and cheer non-stop for hours on end - the noise was deafening!

Throughout the demo a tape recording of the beagles at HLS screaming and crying in agony was played to bring home the cold hard facts to the people of Huntingdon of what exactly they have on their doorstep - a CONCENTRATION CAMP!

Andrew Tyler from Animal Aid gave an excellent speech about HLS and received a huge cheer when he announced that HLS "WILL close down."

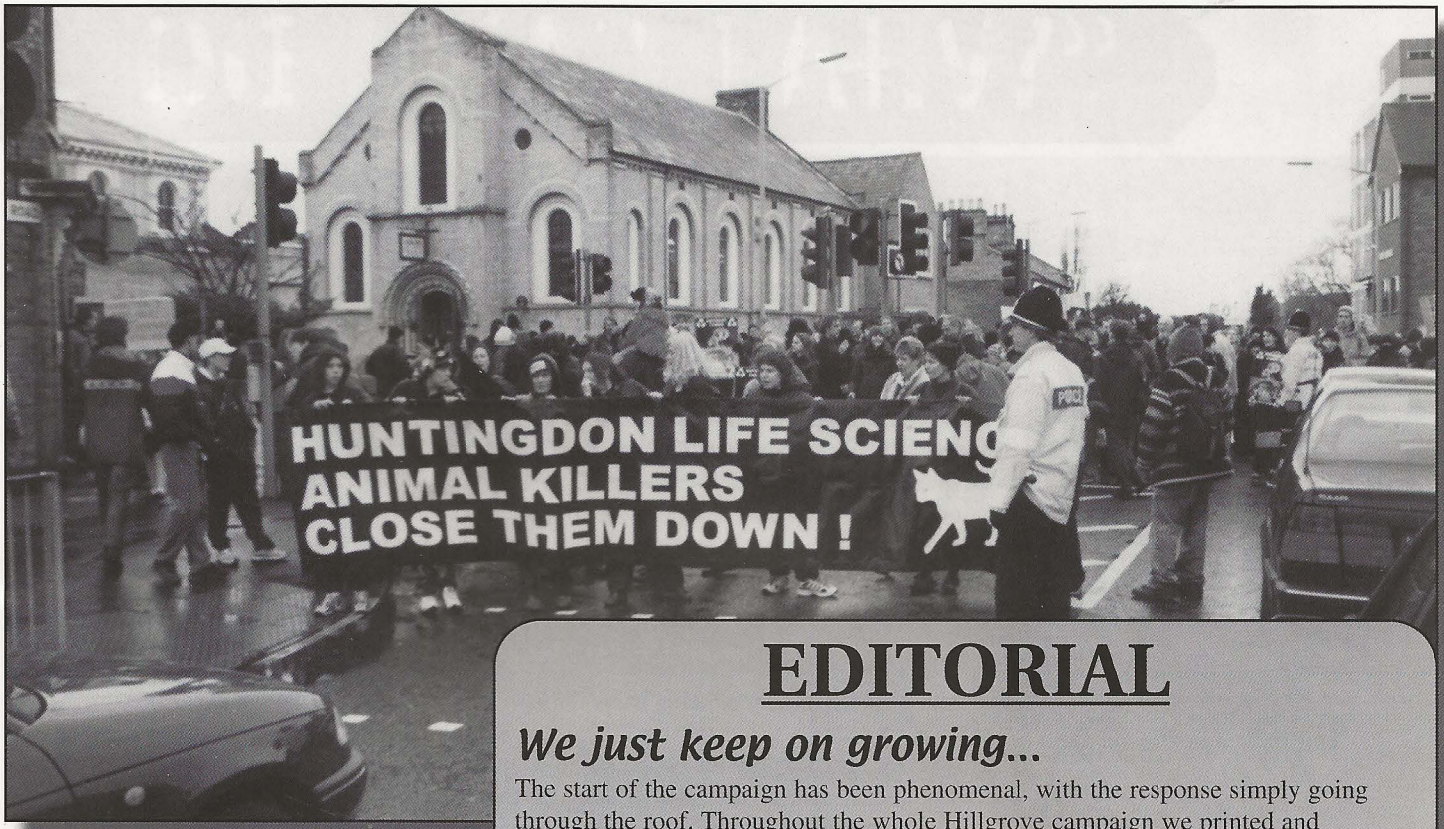
The crowd moved 50 yards down the High Street and paid a visit to the local NatWest bank.

"NatWest invest in death" was chanted over and over again while "NatWest Funds Animal Torture" stickers were put all over the windows of the bank - some even found their way onto the sides of the police vans!

People then surged off in yet another direction and had a sit-down protest on the ring road effectively bringing traffic to a standstill.

At about 3:30pm one hundred protesters went to pay a visit to a few HLS workers. Helen Clark who works in the dog "department" at HLS and lives at 59 Allen Rd, Ramsey, Huntingdon (Tel. 141 01487 814644) was left in no doubt that feelings are running high towards the people who are directly responsible for the pain and suffering of the animals imprisoned at HLS - the hands-on animal abusers. Amazingly it was noted that Helen Clarke keeps two dogs at home as pets!

Other HLS workers who live nearby



were also visited.
Meanwhile, there was a demo still taking place in the town centre. Later that day van-loads of people went to protest at the gates of HLS.
That day alone cost Cambridgeshire police £60,000 with 500 police officers deployed. Police dogs and a helicopter were also seen!
It seems Cambridgeshire police are taking advice from Thames Valley police, who were responsible for policing Hillgrove Farm. This is not a good idea when you consider that policing Hillgrove cost £4.8 million and the place was still forced to close! When will they learn that Section 14 DOESN'T WORK? While animals are still being tortured and killed we will protest effectively and WE WILL WIN. We have to for their sake. As a result of Saturday's demo we were headline news on local TV for three days and front page news in all the local newspapers. We were covered extensively on local radio and Radio One.
HLS's share price fell during the days following the demonstration and at the time of writing it is just 10.5p! Don't underestimate your power to make a difference.
BY WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN CLOSE HLS…FOR GOOD.

EDITORIAL

We just keep on growing...

The start of the campaign has been phenomenal, with the response simply going through the roof. Throughout the whole Hillgrove campaign we printed and distributed about 500,000 leaflets…so far the Huntingdon campaign has printed and distributed more than half a million in just two months! There are hundreds of letters coming into the campaign every week (over 1,200 in one week alone!) All this and we've only just started.
In the week after the national demo the share price of HLS slipped again from 13.5 pence to 10.5 pence. As you can see on the front cover, in 1990 the share price of HLS stood at £3.50 (not a good buy ha ha!). Our view is that if their share price falls below 10 pence they will not suspend trading on the stock exchange but will try and 'tough it out.' With a pitifully low share price and faced with a determined campaign going from strength to strength, there simply is no recovering for HLS.
NatWest demos are springing up everywhere. On the last national NatWest day there were demos from Scotland to Cornwall and from Wales to Kent. The penny is now dropping for NatWest and they are realising that investing in HLS is a costly mistake. During one night in London before Christmas over 80 NatWest cash machines were 'disabled.'
As I said, all this and we've only just started!
HLS offers us so many angles we can attack vivisection from.
Firstly there are the animal experiments, but important angles which need to be highlighted are the facts that HLS is heavily involved in the animal testing of genetically modified foods and Xenotransplantation (animal parts to humans). HLS is the only lab in the UK to have used wild-caught baboons in the last five years. It is facts like these which are not widely known and something we really must push.
Secondly, there needs to be a strong campaign of shaking the shareholders. Remember HLS is publicly owned, so a large pull out of shareholders means the end for HLS. Included in this part of the campaign is of course the NatWest, but it goes beyond that. Look at the insert, these are the main investors in HLS and they need to be targeted in a big way in the coming months. Read it, absorb it and most of all - act on it.
Thirdly the staff morale at HLS is rock bottom. I cannot remember standing outside a lab before and seeing so many dejected and forlorn faces. These people are the lowest of the low and they need to feel the edge of our anger. It cannot be underestimated how important it is to come to the daily pickets. Action at HLS impacts directly onto the company. Please organise yourself and your friends, ring us to let us know you are coming then get stuck into the animal abusers. It is as simple as that. The torturers are there in front of you and remember there is no one way of targeting an animal abuser. You imagine going into work everyday seeing demonstrators and then having to face them on your way home as well. What a brilliant way of crushing their spirit. So please don't leave it to the few of us. RING, WRITE AND DEMONSTRATE. ORGANISE YOURSELVES TO HELP THE ANIMALS.

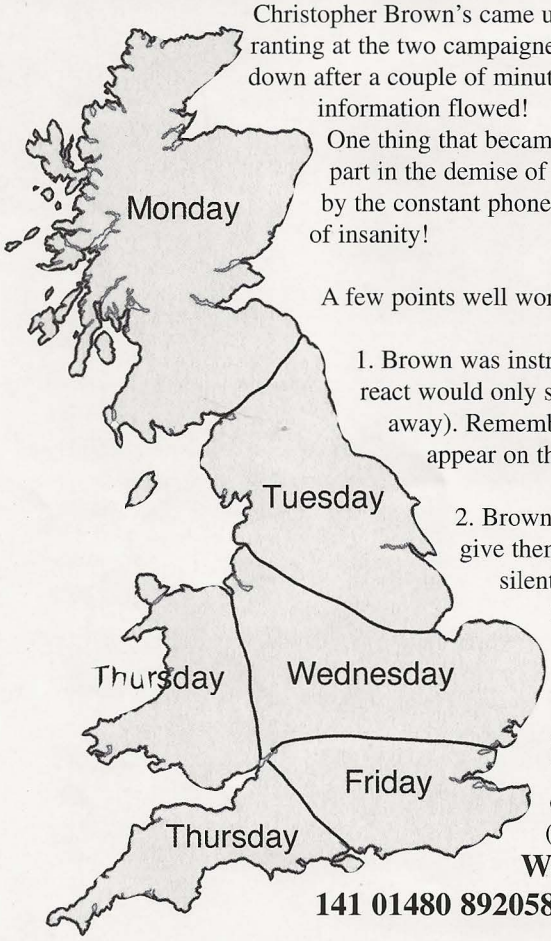
"WHAT CAN I DO TO

Get on the phone

With the closure of Hillgrove Farm under our belts we can look back on various parts of the campaign and evaluate which tactics were successful and which were not.

On an information stall in Oxford a few days before Christmas a friend of Christopher Brown's came up. At first he was ranting at the two campaigners but he calmed down after a couple of minutes…and how the information flowed!

One thing that became crystal clear was that constant phoning of Hillgrove played a large part in the demise of the farm. He detailed how Brown was driven to hysteria many times by the constant phone calls, morning, noon and night and by the end of it he was on the edge of insanity!



A few points well worth remembering came through loud and clear:

1. Brown was instructed by the police not to react to phone calls. This was because to react would only spur on the caller (I think the theory is just ignore them and they'll go away). Remember this when you phone up animal abusers. No matter how calm they appear on the outside, they are most likely raging on the inside.

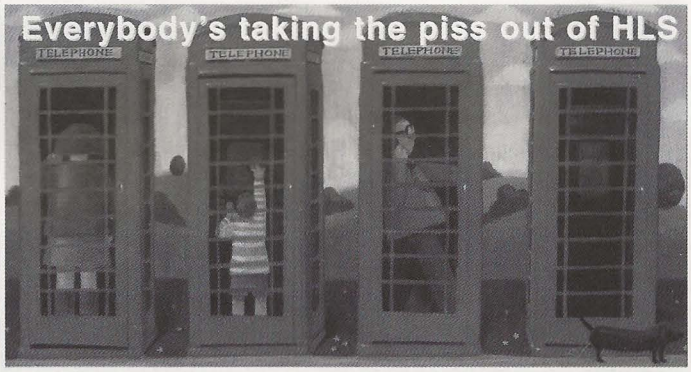
2. Brown loved the people he thought he could reason with (and lie to) so don't give them the opportunity. Don't forget you are talking to (or in the case of silent calls not talking to) filthy animal abusers who are responsible for the imprisonment and torture of a countless number of innocent animals.

3. To really bite and make phone calls a truly effective campaign tool, it is not enough to just phone once or twice but do it scores of times and on a regular basis.

You will find a card with all the important phone numbers on it enclosed with this mailout. Carry it with you at all times and USE IT (preferably in a phone box).

We have three known phone numbers for HLS:
141 01480 892058, 141 01480 892500 and 141 01480 892000

As a way of really keeping up the pressure against HLS we have designated each area with a day of the week on which people should phone HLS. It is especially important that you phone HLS as many times as you can on your area's day. Ring up during office hours (9am-5pm) and either question them about how they can justify being responsible for the deaths of thousands of animals, or simply say nothing at all and then ring them again and again and again.

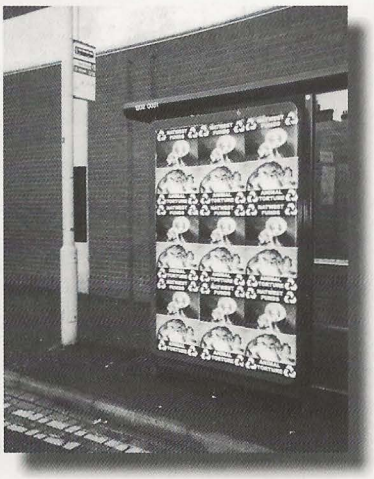


Handy Hints

1. When you ring up HLS why not pose as a business customer?
2. Why not try to speak to an individual worker such as those mentioned on page six? Or even Brian Cass himself - he's usually there!
3. When ringing always prefix the number with 141 so it is more difficult for them to find out where you are dialling from. Use phone boxes where possible.
4. If you are using a phone box, press "Follow on Call" as soon as they answer. You can normally save your 10 pence and phone them again.
5. Public phones which are really good for phoning HLS etc. are the ones which you only insert the money when the person on the other end answers and you want to speak. With these pay phones there is no risk of losing any money. 6. Ring HLS between 9am-5pm (office hours). After 4pm ring the workers at home.

CLOSE DOWN HLS?"

Go flyposting



We have long since lost count of the number of people made fully aware of the cruelty inside British labs because they saw a poster in their local town. Large companies spend millions of pounds every year for prime advertising spots. The beauty of flyposting is that you can provide the campaign with prime spots for free! Just think how many people see graphic pictures of animal suffering on the posters and act on it. The vivisectors' biggest friend is secrecy and they hate the general public seeing images of their 'work.' Posters for flyposting are sent out 1st class within 24 hours of the order being taken so what you waiting for? All you need is a bag of wallpaper paste, a pasting brush and a bag of posters.
Go flying…it's fun!

Hold a public meeting

Public meetings are a useful way of getting local people involved in campaigning and coming to demos. If you organise a public meeting in your area we will provide a speaker.
Here are some ideas to help your evening run smoothly:

1. Pick a suitable venue (i.e. central, easy to find, warm, comfortable and spacious).

2. Publicise the event in your local library, local paper (they may run a story), leaflet door-to-door, adverts in newsagents windows, local radio etc.

3. Refreshments - provide tea and coffee and vegan food if you can manage it.

4. Give us plenty of advance notice - we will bring leaflets, posters, T-shirts, videos and other campaign materials

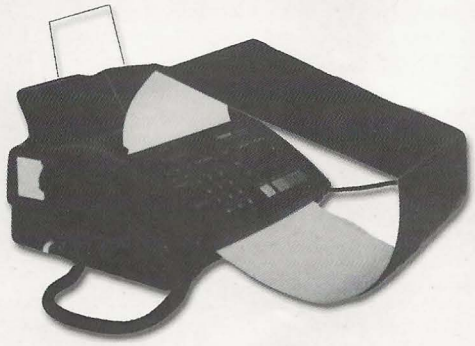
Advertise cheap goods for sale

Put an advert in the FREE ADS section of your local paper. Make the item for sale very attractive and a bargain. Remember to put the telephone number of HLS or one of it's employees at the bottom. If you put HLS's number specify to ring between 9am-5pm and for workers put to ring any time.
You could also print or type advert cards and place them in newsagent's windows and supermarkets on the Customer Information boards.

FOR SALE DREAMCAST
STILL BOXED, UNWANTED
XMAS PRESENT
ONLY £75 ono (will deliver)
TEL. 01480 892000 (9am-5pm)

Send a (black) fax

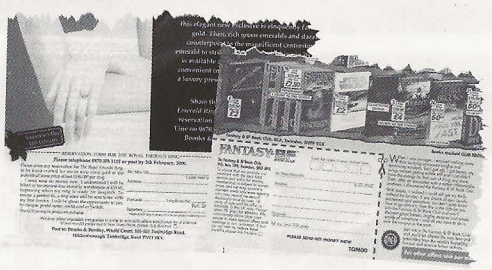
One of the phenomenal successes during the Hillgrove campaign was the pounding given to Brown's fax machine. So many of you sent black faxes to Brown - in fact he received over 100 before 10am on one morning!
Sending a black fax has the double advantage of using up all the ink in the fax machine and blocking the fax line for quite a while.
This will annoy customers of HLS and they will wonder what kind of unprofessional organisation they are dealing with.
Definitely not good for business!
The picture on the left shows three black sheets of paper stuck together and loaded into the fax machine. When the number is dialled the paper starts feeding through the fax and is quickly taped round into a loop so the paper never runs out! (picture right)



HLS's fax numbers are:
141 01480 892379 & 141 01480 892205

"Send no money now!"

You've all seen adverts in Sunday magazine supplements for dolls and plates etc. Look out for the ones which say "Send no money now."
Start collecting these adverts and fill in the details of any of the HLS workers listed below. Soon they will be inundated with unwanted parcels that they will have to pay for or send back!
Normally they have to pay to send the stuff back and if they cannot be bothered then their credit rating can be seriously damaged so in the future if they ever want to purchase any goods on credit they could be refused. Shame!



Most importantly - go to HLS

The most important thing you can do to close HLS is to BE THERE. The animals locked inside need you to take action. There are daily demonstrations at HLS from 7am until 5pm. We are there to see the workers in and to see them out again. We know staff morale is very low and it visibly sank further after the last national demo.
Even one person can be effective - I have stood at the gates and asked individual workers if they are proud to work at HLS. Why should workers at Huntingdon be allowed to come and go as they please with nobody there to question them about what they are doing? HLS is a very busy place during the day - workers come in and out, Brian Cass the Managing Director is there most days, animals are delivered, laboratory torture equipment is delivered, workmen come and go, van delivery drivers are stopped and spoken to (most are friendly and take our leaflets) but most important of all customers wanting to do business with HLS are seen. How does it look to potential customer seeing, 20-30 protesters with banners shouting "there's no future with HLS"?
Remember HLS's motto to its customers is "Your Secret is Our Secret." Not any more it isn't!
We realise some people genuinely can't make it, but for the rest of you - come on - if you only make it once a month it is the most important thing you can do to close HLS.
IF YOU'RE NOT THERE FOR THE ANIMALS - WHO WILL BE?

BLOOD ON THEIR HANDS

The following list contains names and addresses of people who work at HLS. The list on the left contains names and addresses which we do not have telephone numbers for. If you can obtain any of these phone numbers then please send them into the campaign anonymously.

Michael Ligget (Toxicology)
15 Glebe Lane, Buckden, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 9TO

Sarah Figg & David Fowler (Both Dogs)
23 Highfield Avenue, Alconbury Weston, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 2JS

Edmund Harris (Dogs)
"Watermede", 273 Broadway St, Yaxley, Cambs PE7 3NR

Margaret Geary (Primates)
7 Crabapple Close, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5OG

Dilys Smith (Clinical Pathology)
7 Pound Rd, Bury, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5SZ

Paul Ryle (Post Mortems)
32 Church St, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5SZ

Charles Owen (Inhalation Toxicology)
40 Papyrus Way, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5TY

Jennifer Howlett (Inhalation Toxicology)
15 Wyatt Close, Ramsey, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 1ES

Mrs A Brooker (Toxicology Science)
22 Nursery Gdns, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 6NI

Adrian Bull (Industrial Toxicology)
76 Priory Rd, Peterborough PE3 9EE

Carol Read (Toxicology)
76 Gordon Rd, Little Paxton, Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 4NO
141 01480 393851

Anthony Palmer (Toxicology)
10 Hall Close, Hartford, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 7XJ
141 01480 458628

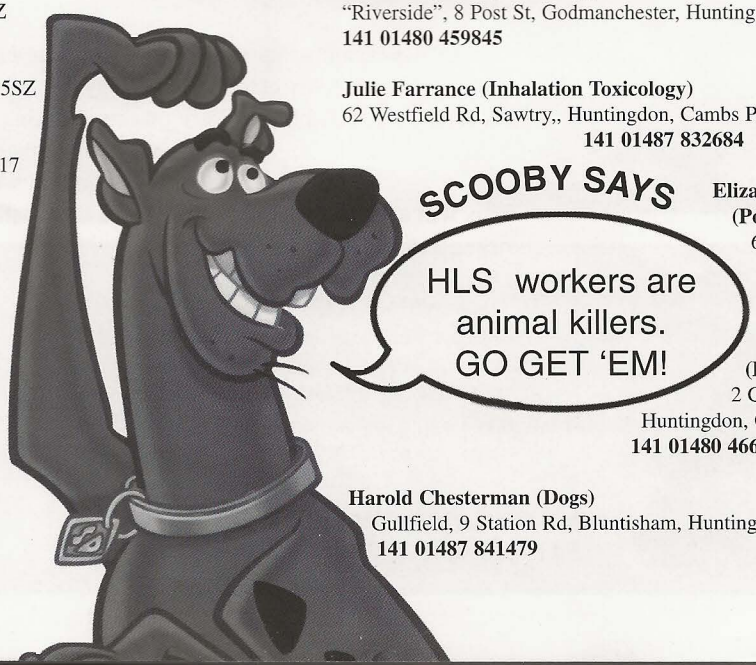
Sandra Fuff (Industrial Toxicology)
31 Newton Rd, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5UT
141 01487 832096

Mr. A. Allan (Inhalation Toxicology)
13 Church Way, Alconbury Weston, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5JB
141 01480 890192

Michael Brown (Toxicology)
1 The Stiles, Godmanchester, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 8JF
141 01480 390963

Sheena Kynoch (Toxicology)
"Riverside", 8 Post St, Godmanchester, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 8BA
141 01480 459845

Julie Farrance (Inhalation Toxicology)
62 Westfield Rd, Sawtry,, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5TX
141 01487 832684



Elizabeth & Michael Barker (Post Mortems & Toxicology)
6 Holmewood Crescent, Holme, Cambs PE7 3PY
141 01487 830131

Robert Anderson (Primates)
2 Chapel Lane, Houghton, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17
141 01480 466910

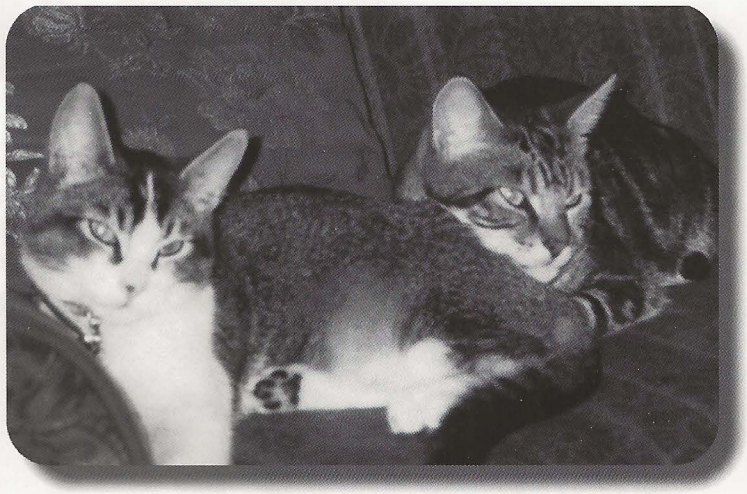
Harold Chesterman (Dogs)
Gullfield, 9 Station Rd, Bluntisham, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 3LL
141 01487 841479

WE NEED YOUR HELP

This campaign is very expensive, we are all volunteers and we are all committed 100% to closing down HLS. We always said we would close down Consort and Hillgrove Farm. Even when people doubted it could be achieved, we never lost faith and out determination never wavered. Thousands of you were with us all the way and we did it together. These pictures feature some ex-Hillgrove cats and ex-Consort beagles, who would all be dead now if we had not all worked so hard and closed those hell-holes.

This campaign will be bigger and more expensive. We spent £1,000 in one week on postage alone! (It's calmed down a bit now and we average £250 a week).

We will always make sure that our literature is given out to people for free but this can be a very expensive undertaking. We urgently need people to raise money for us so that we can not only continue at the rate we



are going but actually work even harder and get HLS closed as soon as possible.

When you make a donation or raise funds for Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty you can see exactly where your money goes.

Here's how you can save more lives and end the misery and pain:

1. Fill in the enclosed Standing Order form. If everyone made a donation to the campaign (however small) once a month it would probably pay for at least all the printing and postage.

2. Consider remembering us in your will. We are committed to fighting animal abuse for the rest of our lives. (See reverse of Standing Order form).

3. Hold a street stall for Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty. If you already do stalls please consider doing an extra day now and again for us. (Even better let us know if you can commit to a regular stall).

4. Ask around sympathetic shops to see if they will put one of our collecting tins on their counter.

5. Do a sponsored dog walk, swim, fast etc.

An awful lot of our time at present is spent struggling to raise funds and it is time consuming and a burden. Other areas of the campaign are being neglected as a result.

This is your campaign, please support it anyway you can.

Lastly thank you, on behalf of the animals, to all of you who regularly raise funds and come to demos. Those two things are the most important things you can do.

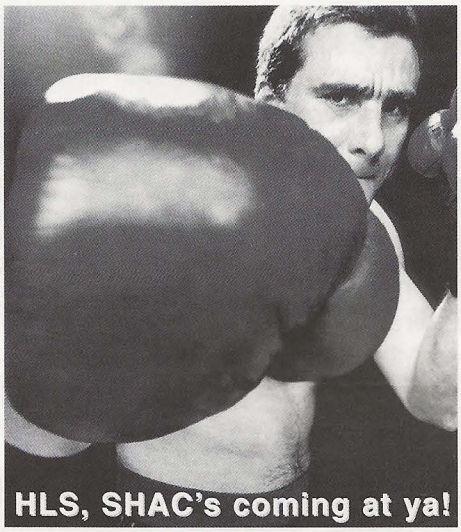
IF NOT YOU...WHO?
IF NOT NOW...WHEN?

START THE YEAR AS WE MEAN TO GO ON!

What a night to remember! I'll never forget it. Nearly 200 people wanted to see the New Year in at HLS (There were also vigils at Glaxo, Shamrock and Newchurch). Never mind the pubs, parties and night clubs, the animals imprisoned at HLS had nothing to celebrate. We were there for them! Veggies provided delicious food and hot drinks for only a donation (thank you Veggies!) and music played throughout the night.

We kept warm by the brazier or by running around the perimeter fence and giving the police and security guards some exercise. At the stroke of midnight there was an intense one minute's silence. It was so emotional that many people were in tears . Flowers were placed at the gates of HLS. At the end of one minute there was a short speech by Heather James who said that until HLS closes down the year 2000 is meaningless to her.

Then John Curtin made an impassioned speech and called for a celebration of the recent rescue of 71 beagle puppies from Interfauna which is just a short distance away from HLS. (Interfauna supply HLS with beagles). He cracked open a bottle of vegan champagne and proceeded to shake it up and spray everybody including half of Cambridgeshire constabulary, who just bowed their heads and tried not to get the spray in their eyes. Throughout the early hours of the first day in the year 2000 several home visits were made to HLS workers and they were woken up by very angry protesters demanding they end their torture of animals at HLS. What a way to start the New Year!!!


HLS, SHAC's coming at ya!

Thank you to everybody who came, especially those who travelled long distances - there was a group who came all the way from Scotland! We have to mention the wonderful 80 year old lady who came with her daughter from Sheffield and stayed up all night and saw the workers arrive in the morning. She was such a character and an example to everybody!

A special thanks to the 40 or 50 people who could and did stay to see the workers in on New Year's Day. That was so important. Many people had real problems getting in through the gates despite the police and security guard's efforts. The workers on New Year's Day are the real scum, they are the hands-on animal abusers.

Thank you all again so much. I felt privileged and proud to stand alongside you at the beginning of the year 2000 and the beginning of the end of HLS.

OCCOLD INSPECTION

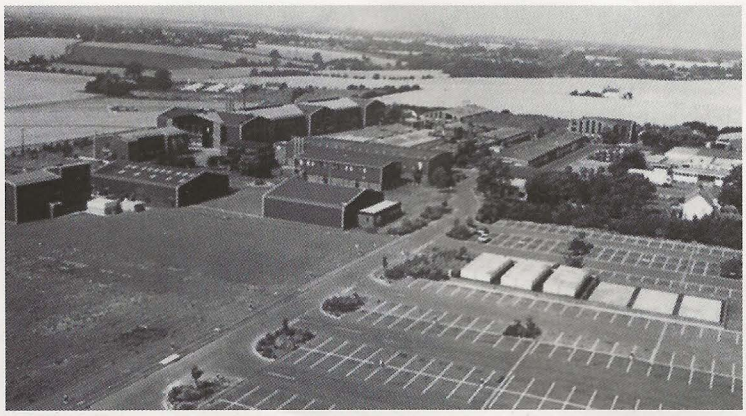
MONSANTO FOUND AMONGST HUNTINGDON'S CLIENTS

On Tuesday 16th November, seven concerned members of the public decided to perform an impromptu inspection of Huntingdon Life Science's Occold site.

Taking advantage of the company's apparent open door policy, the group simply drove a vehicle onto the premises through the main gate, deposited six of the 'inspectors' and drove away again while the employees' jaws were still in mid-drop (the seventh member entered later via an alternative route).

Within the compound, the people scattered to investigate all accessible areas of the site, including inside the building and on the roof, taking photos and video footage (which were later confiscated) and putting the lab's minimal security arrangements to the test. One member of the 'inspection team' gained access to HLS's computer system and discovered the name 'Monsanto' amongst HLS's clients.

A rather excessive number of police arrived before long to arrest the seven, once they had thought of a plausible legal reason to do so. Eventually they came up with the gem: 'suspicion of attempted burglary' and transported them to Ipswich Police Station for questioning, at the end of which no charges were brought.



A few days later, HLS placed advertisements in local Jobcentres for some new vacancies at Occold: security guards and dog handlers urgently required!

CHANNEL FOUR

Please write to Channel Four television asking them to repeat the programme "It's a dogs's Life" part of the Countryside Undercover Series. This programme showed workers at HLS punching and violently shaking beagle dogs.

The address to write is:
The Viewer Enquiry Officer
Channel 4
124 Horseferry Rd
London
SW1P 2TX
Tel: 0171 396 4444

XENOTRANSPLANTATION

HLS UP TO THEIR NECKS IN IT!

On the BBC 5 Live documentary Ed Hall Investigates on the 14th of February 1999 it was revealed that HLS had been involved in horrific and highly controversial experiments where transgenic pig hearts and kidneys had been removed and transplanted into baboons caught in the wild and

shipped to the UK specifically for this gruesome research. HLS was also revealed as being the hiding place for a herd of pigs containing human genes owned by Imutran Ltd., a Cambridge based subsidiary of Novartis. The pigs' location had been a closely guarded secret until this investigation. Some primate recipients of pig organs have suffered and died because of the poisonous effects of high doses of immunosuppressant drugs that have been tested on them. Other primates have died because of infections that have arisen because their immune systems have been so damaged. The use of transgenics already carries huge risks to human recipients of animal organs. This combined with HLS's well documented, sloppy research practices, represents a public health time-bomb waiting to go off!

FAILURES

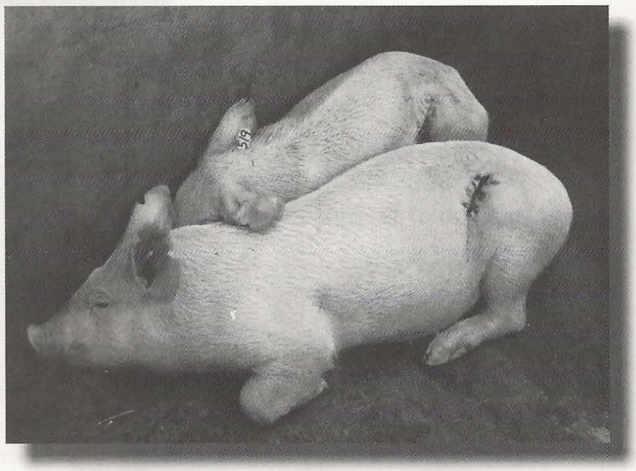
Despite the recent media hype, xenotransplantation is not a new idea.

Kidney xenografts - Since 1902 attempts have been made to graft kidneys of rabbits, pigs, goats, baboons, sheep and chimps into humans. The longest surviving human recipient lived for nine months with a chimpanzee's kidney.

Heart xenografts - From 1964, the hearts of chimpanzees, sheep, pigs and baboons have been transplanted into humans. Up to 1996, the longest surviving human recipient lived just under a month with the heart of a chimpanzee.

Liver xenografts - Baboon livers have most often been used in liver xenografts, although in 1992 one transplanter used a pig's liver. The longest surviving human recipient lived for 70 days with the liver from a baboon.

The resounding failure of xenotransplants is due to biochemical, anatomical and immunological differences between humans and other animals. Failure was greater with discordant xenografts, where the source animal is more distant to humans (such as pig organ transplants) than concordant (non-human primate to human) xenografts.



RISKS

The quest for xenotransplants stems from claims that the demand for organs for human transplantation exceeds the supply of available organs. Specially bred pigs are thought to be a means of satisfying the organ shortage. But, the use of animal organs is not simply a matter of ethical consideration, there is also the risk of infection passing from the donor animal to the human recipient. This has delayed the introduction of clinical trials.

Fungi - Aspergillis, is present in the respiratory tract of pigs, and the lungs are the prime site of infection in humans. The fungi is associated with infection of the central nervous system in human kidney transplant patients.

Parasites - Toxoplasma gondi infects both pigs and humans

Bacteria - Pneumococcus, stephylococcus, nocardia and mycobacteria, have all caused problems in human kidney transplant recipients.

Prions - In pigs, one of the herpes viruses is cytomegalovirus (CMV). It is known that CMV is the most important virus infection affecting human transplant recipients, and in kidney transplant patients CMV infection can be severe or even fatal. As CMV can be transferred to the foetus via the uterus, it cannot be eliminated at source, even with transgenic animals from SPF conditions. An endogenous retrovirus (PERV-PK) which originates inside the body in pig cells has been identified as being capable of infection, replication and serial transfer in a range of human cell lines.

It has been argued that as pig's valves are used in heart surgery then a pig's organ can be used in transplant surgery. But the heart valves are preserved in gluaraldehyde which renders them "not-living" and eliminates infectious organisms and reduces the immune system response.

INCREASING ORGAN SUPPLY

"Opt-out" scheme - Spain, Belgium, Austria, Finland and Norway have adopted the so-called "opt-out" scheme, whereby unless a person states otherwise, they are automatically considered as potential donors. Statistics show that Spain performed more cadaveric kidney and liver transplants than the UK, and in Belgium the number of donors has doubled since the scheme was introduced.

"Required request" - In America, "Required request" means a doctor approaches the family of a potential donor after a life-support machine has been turned off, and ask if the organs may be used for transplantation. The rate for heart-lung and lung transplants in the US exceeded those of every European country.

Living donors - In Norway, the high rate of kidney transplants is due to the high number of organs from living donors. It has been recognised that a small increase in the number of living donors in the UK would have a significant impact on kidney transplants.

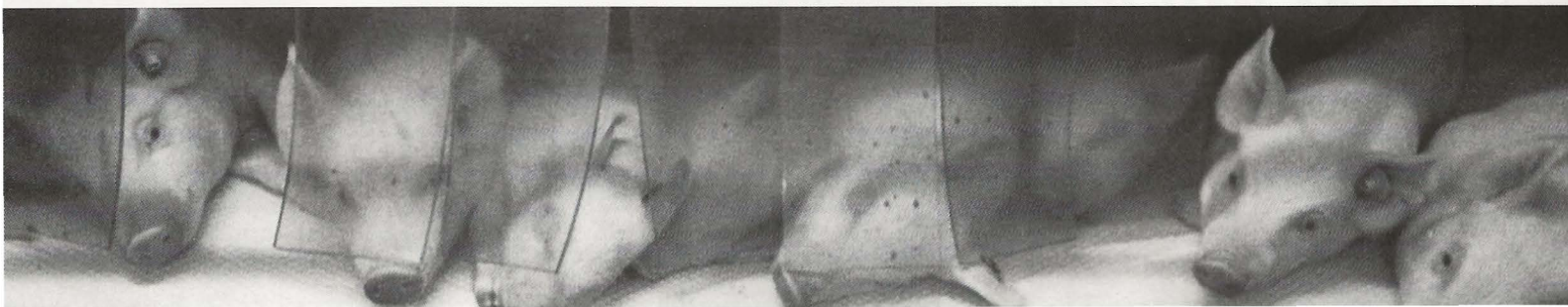
PREVENTION

Instead of focussing resources and finances into a method that can, at best, only benefit a few, attention should be shifted to identifying the causes that lead to the demand for organ transplants and thus to ways of prevention. Diet, pollution, lifestyle, etc. can contribute to the effects of human health. Population and epidemiological studies can help identify these factors and to means of taking preventative measures.

SUMMARY

History shows that on every occasion xenotransplantation has failed. There is a risk to the recipient from the transfer of organs from one species to another. Xenotransplantation does not address the real issue of why there is an organ shortage and why there is a demand for donor organs for transplant. Ways of decreasing the need for organs, and if necessary, increasing the supply of available human organs need to be addressed. More resources need to be focussed on prevention than the false hope of a possible cure through xenotransplantation.

by
Steve Beddard



NATWEST DON'T BAN

One of the keys to closing down HLS is to put pressure on their bankers - The NatWest Bank. The NatWest loaned HLS £24.5 million when they could not find the money anywhere else to keep them afloat. We really must make NatWest pay for funding animal cruelty so they pull out at their earliest opportunity, which they can do on 31st August 2000.

There are three main ways of targeting the NatWest. Firstly by holding demos, sit-ins and publicity stunts at the bank itself, secondly by blockading NatWest's freephone telephone lines and thirdly by ringing, writing and visiting the directors. To find out more about all of these parts of the campaign, read on…

DEMOS & PUBLICITY STUNTS

You only need a few people to educate NatWest customers and tell them how their money is being spent. We would like to see every NatWest bank in the country targeted on the last Saturday of every month - some campaigners visit their local NatWest every week!

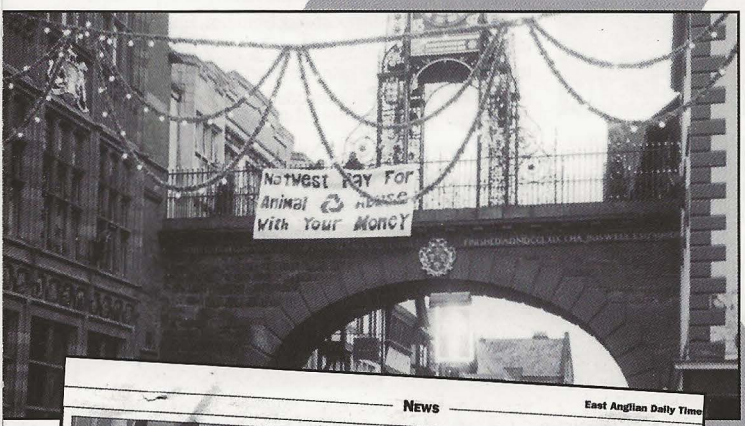
If you have a NatWest bank near you, don't let them feel left out - organise a demo! It's easy! If you can commit to holding a demo at a particular NatWest at least once a month please let us know so we can keep an up-to-date database of what is happening where and also we can put any people in your area who are interested in touch with you.

We can always help with handling the press. If your local media want further information just pass them on.

In the next newsletter we will produce a list of all the NatWest banks adopted so far.

To help you choose a local NatWest Bank to target, you can find a list of all the NatWest branches and cashpoints on NatWest's website at: www.natwest.com

Something worth remembering when you are doing a NatWest demo is always make the demo very visual and very loud. Some people use a megaphone which not only draws people in to see what all the fuss is about but has the added advantage of making yourself heard by bank workers and bank customers.

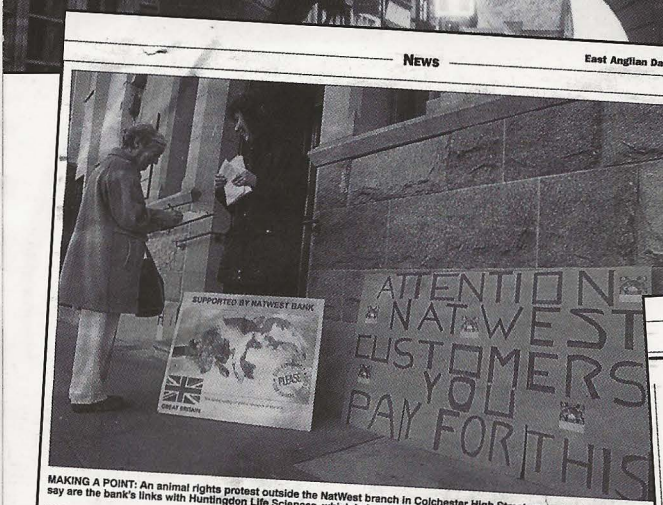


You could try holding an information stall with a pasting table outside the bank at the same time as the demo. Again this will draw people over to see what is going on and they may give the campaign money. People have made a few hundred pounds by doing stalls at the same time as demos.

To be extra visual try wearing masks during the demo The 'scream' style ones, for example, stand out really well and get you noticed.

When you first get to the bank you may be able to go inside and start leafleting and telling customers inside about NatWest's dealings with HLS. Remember to always be polite to customers as they probably know nothing about vivisection. Eventually the police will normally arrive and force you out of the bank, but you are unlikely to get arrested and this just attracts more people's attention and you can continue leafleting outside the bank.

A good place to buy top quality, loud (25W) megaphones is DSC Sound & Lighting, 12 Albion St, Dunstable, Beds LU6 1SA Phone 01582 606066. The model you want is ER66S and it costs £98 inc p&p



MAKING A POINT: An animal rights protest outside the NatWest branch in Colchester High Street over what the campaigners say are the bank's links with Huntingdon Life Sciences, which is involved in animal experiments Photograph: NICK STRUGNELL

News — East Anglian Daily Times

Bank picketed by animal aid group

PROTESTERS gathered outside the NatWest Bank in Colchester High Street to demonstrate against the company's dealings with Huntingdon Life Sciences, a firm whose activities include testing on animals.

A handful of demonstrators stood outside the branch to collect signatures from bank customers and other shoppers to register their disapproval at the bank's involvement with the company.

Valerie Oliver, one of the protesters, said she did not think companies that persisted in animal testing for whatever purpose should be supported any longer, either by banks or by the public at large.

by RICHARD WOODARD

"I would like to see similar companies go down the pan," she said. "I don't believe that in this day and age that there is any need for the type of vivisection that is going on – the testing of household products so that one firm perhaps can get the edge on another in the market place.

"It's all down to profit and greed and in the meantime there's hundreds of thousands of animals suffering."

A NatWest Group spokesman confirmed that HLS was a customer of the bank, which he said was one of a consortium of banks which lend to the company.

"Animal testing is an emotive issue," he said. "Individuals hold views which range from animals should have the same rights as humans, to those who feel that animals exist for human use.

"It is for Government to decide the appropriate line to be drawn between differing viewpoints.

"NatWest does not condone needless cruelty to animals, but HLS is a legitimate business which has to meet the standards set by the appropriate regulatory and supervisory bodies. Standards are a matter for the regulatory and supervisory bodies to handle.

"NatWest seeks to act responsibly and with integrity in its business dealings. We do not believe it would be responsible to withdraw financial support to any company where it is judged that it would have a viable future."

WYCOMBE NEWS

Bank says lab was a legitimate customer

Animal rights activists protest outside NatWest

ANIMAL rights activists took to the streets to launch a campaign against the NatWest Bank for giving a £24.5 million loan to a company that experiments on animals.

Ten protesters stood outside the NatWest Bank in High Street, High Wycombe, with blood-splattered banners, demanding the bank calls in its loan to Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) in Cambridge.

Nigel Cook, of Wycombe-based animal rights group Animal Life Support, said a Channel Four documentary shown earlier this year showed filmed beagle puppies being mistreated on HLS's property.

He said NatWest saved the company from almost certain ruin after agreeing a £24.5 million loan last year.

STIAN ALEXANDER
WYCOMBE REPORTER

Mr Cook said: "The abuse to the beagle puppies, which were only four months old, is staggering. The dogs were petrified."

Dawn Parkes, of ALS, said more than 1,000 people took leaflets saying 'NatWest funds animal torture' and at least ten promised to close their accounts with NatWest after hearing of the loan.

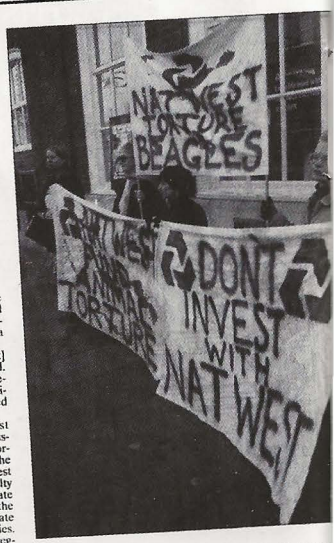
She said: "We have had a fantastic response from the people of Wycombe. We have handed out more than 1,000 leaflets and a lot of people have been asking questions about NatWest."

Hundreds joined the national campaign to force NatWest to cancel the loan to HLS when it comes up for renewal next year.

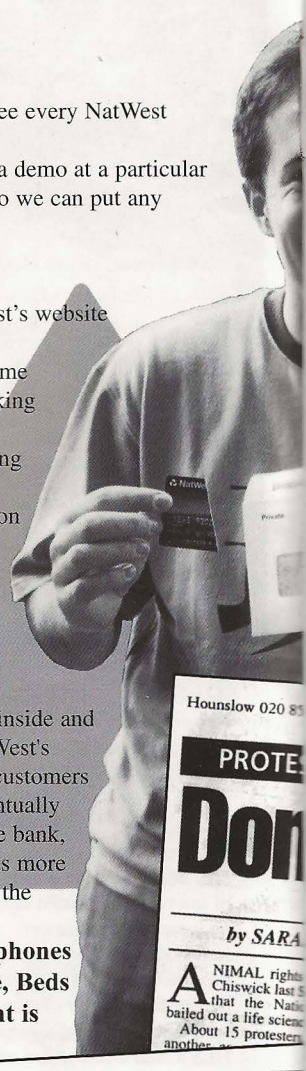
A spokesman for HLS said the Channel Four documentary called A Dog's Life did highlight an incident where an employee struck a dog used for animal testing.

"A beagle was cuffed [struck] and it should never have happened. The animal's welfare is our premium concern and the two technicians who hit the dog were sacked the next day and taken to court."

A spokesman for NatWest Group confirmed HLS is a customer of NatWest, one of a consortium of banks which lent to the company and added: "NatWest does not condone needless cruelty to animals, but HLS is a legitimate business which has to meet the standards set by the appropriate regulatory and supervisory bodies. Standards are a matter for the regulatory and supervisory bodies to handle," said the spokesman.



Protest: Animal rights activists at NatWest in High



NK ON AN EASY LIFE

The following article was written by a supporter following a NatWest demo in High Wycombe:

Go on, be inspired to give your local NatWest branch a SHAC attack - you know it makes sense! We did and the response and support from the public was overwhelming. Of course it was market day and the town was rather busy! We gave out over a thousand leaflets, collected seven pages of signed petitions and collected a total of £146.59. We put the old Hillgrove collection tins to good use by sticking NatWest stickers over the Hillgrove ones and away we went! The local press came along, took pictures, interviewed some of the group and we gave them leaflets on the campaign. A news item then went into the local paper informing even more people about the campaign. We were rather visual as we had lots of big banners, mounted laminated posters (which sat rather well on the window sill of the bank!), a mad vivisector with his NatWest blood-splattered lab coat, and the key item - a megaphone. This proved to be invaluable at drawing attention as to why we were there, what the campaign was all about, and informing the public about NatWest's involvement in this vile, evil trade. Many people came over to us to find out more after hearing some of the details. We had one lady who came out of the bank and informed us she had just closed her account. As this brilliant news was announced on the megaphone a big cheer and round of applause echoed through the market from shoppers, market traders and passers-by. We felt elated that we were starting to make a difference this early on in the campaign. As I write this we have had a day of action against NatWest today. Again the response was amazing. We have had more people closing their account today. We had five pages of petitions and collected a total of £105.90. At least now when we order 3,000 leaflets at a time we can put some money straight back in to the campaign. The public are outraged by HLS and NatWest, and we have promised to have many more demonstrations outside the bank in the future. (Well as many as it takes, and judging by the public response in this town if we all target NatWest that may not be too long!)

4141, Richmond 020 8943 5171

The Chronicle (HF)

TERS TARGET NATWEST OVER ANIMAL EXPERIMENT LABORATORY

't bank on our support

PICKERING

tivists staged a protest in rday following revelations Westminster Bank has laboratory.

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■ Animal Rights campaigners protesting outside Chiswick High Road's NatWest bank.

"We do not feel it would be responsible to withdraw financial support to any company where it is judged that it would have a viable future."

A spokesman for HLS, who did not wish to be named because he has been receiving personal threats, said: "HLS helps develop safe new medicines. Part of that process involves using animals in research. However, many of the allegations against HLS are untrue."

He added: "We operate to the highest standards of animal welfare and strict protocols and are inspected by the Home Office at regular intervals.

"We have an open policy at our sites in the UK which many local groups come and visit.

"Extreme animal rights groups don't want animals involved in research at all and whatever we do they disagree.

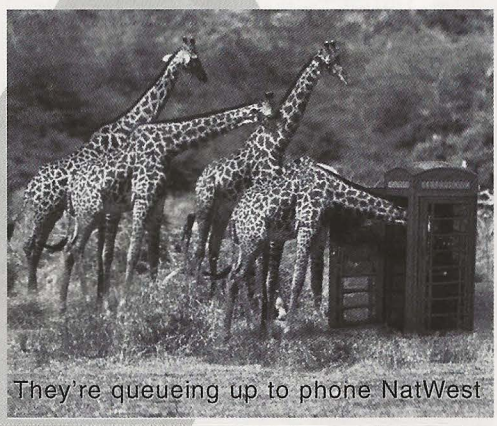
"They should take the matter up with the government who are extremely stringent on the way in which we and other companies test new medicines."

PUBLICITY STUNTS CONTINUED

There are various other actions and publicity stunts you can carry out against NatWest. A few are listed here:
1. Decorating Bridges - By tying banners securely to bridges you can create a lot of adverse publicity for NatWest. Just think how many cars pass underneath some bridges every day. We have also seen some bridges painted with anti-NatWest slogans, which are a lot harder to remove than a simple banner. Send us in a photo and we'll print the best.
2. Decorating Cash Machines - NatWest creates a lot of revenue through its cash machines. These are open 24 hours a day seven days a week and are an ideal target for anti-NatWest literature. We provide stickers which sit nicely on cash machines. Once these stickers have been in place for a while they are really difficult to remove.

PHONE BLOCKADES

Many of NatWest's telephone numbers are 0800 numbers, which means that the call is paid for by NatWest. If we all ring these 0800 numbers often enough then we can successfully block NatWest's telephones. This will result in customers no being able to get through, a blocked messaging system and wasted time for NatWest's employees.
The main NatWest numbers to ring are: **0800 777 888** - This line is to arrange a discussion with the small business advisors.
0800 00 44 00 - This number is manned 24 hours a day, so there is always someone to take your call.
0800 505050 - This is the customer services number.
0800 200 400 - This number is to arrange meetings with financial planners.
Certain dates have been arranged when we should all make an extra effort to block NatWest's phones over a certain time span:
From Saturday February 12th until Monday 14th February ring 0800 777 888 This is to fill up their answer phones.
From Tuesday February 15th until Friday 18th February ring 0800 200 400.


They're queueing up to phone NatWest

ACTION IN THE NORTH

For those living in the North there are still many ways in which you can take part in the campaign to close down Huntingdon Life Sciences. The obvious target currently is the Nat West bank. Until they issue a statement of their intent to sever their links with HLS, we need to be demonstrating outside as many branches as we can and as often as possible.
In May 1999 'Manchester Animal Protection' and 'Liverpool Animal Rights' decided between them to wage an intensive campaign against the NatWest bank, in order to highlight their link with HLS. In the six months that followed they held pickets and / or occupations at over 100 branches of the NatWest and visited every major town at least once in the region. The demonstrations had an enormous impact on the bank. During the course of one demonstration alone, twelve customers closed their accounts there and then. By September, over 50,000 signatures had been collected on the petition calling for the NatWest to withdraw from HLS.
Now that demos are taking place all over the country the NatWest are seriously worried. One member of staff at middle management level actually admitted in a telephone conversation that the NatWest had under-estimated the strength of the campaign, and that it was having a negative effect on their business.
Elsewhere one employee confided in demonstrators that "to say that the NatWest were s***tting themselves about the campaign was an understatement"!
And this was before the announcement of the new campaign to close down HLS.
Let there be no doubt that the NatWest will pull their money out of HLS, if the protests are big enough and often enough. If / when they do, this could well be a fatal blow to HLS. The following groups hold regular pickets. If there is no contact for your area, please contact the campaign and we can arrange to hold a demo in your area.
As well as the regular pickets, there are the following regional days of action against the NatWest bank, which we need as many people as possible to attend :
Saturday 26th February : Day of Action outside the NatWest bank in Leeds. Meet outside city centre branch, 8 Park Row, Leeds LS1. 10am
Saturday 11th March : Day of Action outside the NatWest bank in Sheffield. Meet outside High St branch, Sheffield city centre, 10am.

No excuse for cruelty

MANY people were shocked to hear of NatWest Bank's involvement in animal experiments as reported in the *News*, but the comments on behalf of the bank were equally shocking. To say that Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) is just another business shows an ignorance of the facts.

Three times, HLS have been investigated by independent researchers, and each time the findings were disgraceful.

Pointless, horrific tests and sub-standard housing were among the first findings. In 1997 Channel 4 showed film taken during the second study, which showed senior staff beating and screaming at dogs. It was so extreme the police successfully prosecuted two staff.

Since then a monkey has been filmed under going a dissection while still alive. A technician was also filmed holding a monkey in mid air while he injected a test substance into the eye, then joking that he should never have done it and he would pretend he never did. Staff were filmed screaming at terrified monkeys. HLS seemed to think this evidence was not severe, their director called it "tomfoolery".

The reason NatWest were involved at all is that after the Channel 4 program of the dog beating, conditions were known to be so extreme that HLS lost customers.

These customers were companies who pay to have products from weedkillers to floor cleaners tested on animals, so are hardly animal-friendly, but even they felt HLS was below acceptable standards.

Massive losses resulted, the share price crashed from 122p to 9p, and the bankers (Barclays) pulled out. It seems NatWest are the only company happy with such a disgraced company.

I have been personally informed by about ten people that their NatWest accounts will be closed over this issue. This includes two business accounts, but does not include proposed accounts which will not be opened or those who have not been able to let me know their intentions. NatWest have lost business forever over their immoral investment.

NatWest may feel their actions are justified, but the 500 monkeys, dogs, cats, rabbits and mice killed every DAY at HLS would disagree — as would many NatWest customers who are outraged at where their money has been invested.

There are a great many of us who are not prepared to give up on this until either NatWest pulls out of HLS, or HLS closes down. The arguments used by NatWest are no justification for pointless violence against animals.

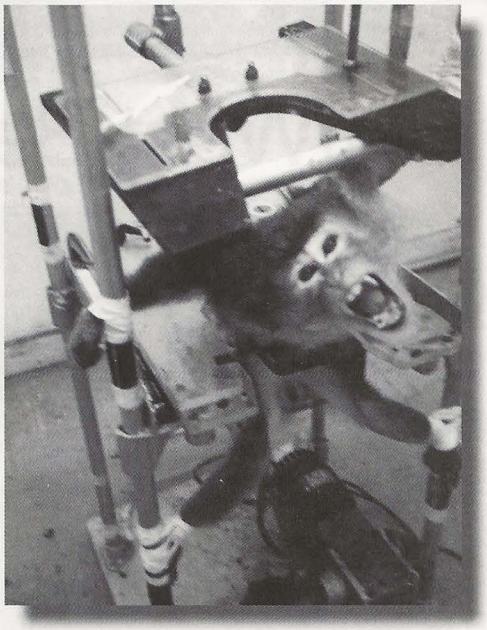
Our campaign is strong nationally now (phone 0121 632 6460 for details) and will be concluded only when Huntingdon Life Sciences is closed. — **Chris Wright.**

ACTIVISTS GET STUCK IN

The week before Christmas in London over 80 NatWest cash machines were 'disabled' in one night. It would appear that people have been getting hold of supermarket loyalty cards, such as the Tesco club card, covering them with superglue and pushing them into the slot on the cash machines, rendering the machine out of action. It is thought the activists covered their faces with a hat and scarf to avoid being filmed on the hidden cameras which some cash machines contain.

DIRECTORS OF NATWEST

Those listed below are not just innocent bank directors. They cynically chose to invest in a company whose record of terrifying animals is second to none. Ring them, write to them and visit them and let them know that investing in animal suffering does not pay.



Martin (Gibbeson) Taylor CBE MA
28 Ormond Avenue, Hampton,
Middlesex TW12 2RU
Telephone: UNKNOWN
Partner: Gunilla Chatarina (née Bryner)

Ronald (Arnon) Sandler
5 Southside Common, Wimbledon,
London SW19 4TG
Telephone: 141 0181 946 1179

Sir Charles (David) Powell KCMG
1 Caroline Close, Bayswater, London
W2 4RW
Telephone: UNKNOWN
Partner: Carla (née Bonardi)

Sir (John) David Rowland
Giffords Hall, Giffords Lane, Clopton Wickhambrook, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8
Telephone; 01440 820221 & 821331
& 105 Barnsbury Street, Barnsbury, London N1 1EP
Telephone: 141 0171 609 2041
Partner: Diana Louise (née Matthews)

Pendarell 'Pen' (Hugh) Kent CBE
62 East Sheen Avenue, East Sheen,
London SW14 8AU
Telephone: UNKNOWN
Partner: Jill (née George)

Sir (Maurice) Sydney Lipworth QC
The Gables, 115 Hamilton Terrace, St
John's Wood NW 9QU
Telephone: UNKNOWN
Partner: Rosa (née Liwarek)

Paul Myners
16 Walton St, Brompton, London SW3
1RE
Telephone: 141 0171 823 8495
Partner: Alison (née McLoed)

Anthony (John) Habgood
7 Cadogan St, Brompton, London SW3
2PP
Telephone: 141 0171 581 1706
Partner: Nancy (née Atkinson)

Peter (James Scott) Hammonds FCIS
Newlands, Hall Lane, Ingatestone, Essex
CM4 9NN
Telephone: UNKNOWN
Partner: Hazel Frances

Bernard (Philip) Horn
Westmead House, 8 Westmead,
Roehampton, London SW15 5BQ
Telephone: 141 0181 789 2662

Richard Delbridge MBA FCA
48 Downshire Hill, Hampstead, London
NW3 1NX
Telephone: 141 0171 794 5908
Partner: Diana Genevre Rose (née
Bowers Broadbent)

Sir Richard (Harry) Evans CBE
Hall Cross Manor, Kirkham Rd,
Freckleton, Preston, Lancs PR4 1HU
Telephone: 141 01772 679411

(Hamish) Martin (Vincent) Gray
Knoll House, Winter Hill Rd, Pinkneys
Green, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6NS
Telephone: UNKNOWN
Partner: Alison Margaret (née Wells)

Sir Michael (Richardson) Angus
Cerney House, North Cerney,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 7BX
Telephone: 141 01285 831300 &
831783
Partner: Eileen Isabel May (née Elliot)

Professor Susan (Joyce) Birley
Mill House, Benham Park, Marsh
Benham, Newbury, Berkshire RG20
8LX
Telephone: 141 01635 36299
Partner: Professor David Norburn

James Blyth (Lord Blyth of Rowington)
Windmill House Cottage, Finwood Rd,
Rowington, Warwick CV35 7DF
Telephone: UNKNOWN
Partner: (Pamela) Anne (née Campbell-
Dixon)

HOLLAND & BARRETT

NatWest Bankers

Holland and Barrett bank with the NatWest. This is significant because Holland and Barrett portray themselves as an "ethical" company to their customers. You only have to walk into one of their 340 stores in the UK to see they claim to avoid animal products and are against animal testing on their own-brand toiletries. Therefore we were most surprised to see their dismissive, patronising letter to Animal Aid's Andrew Tyler.

Andrew Tyler wrote a factual, reasonable and well-written letter to the managing director of Holland and Barrett, Mr Barry Vickers.

Here are some extracts:

"I write on behalf of Animal Aid's many thousands of supporters urging you to cease banking with NatWest because of their decision to give credit facilities of some £24.5 million to the notorious commercial vivisectors, Huntingdon Life Science (HLS)."

"HLS have been the subject of three undercover investigations in recent years, each of them exposing extreme cruelty and sloppy data gathering."

"The resulting scandal caused HLS's shares to nose-dive and the company would have been forced to liquidate if not for the credit lifeline extended by NatWest."

The reply from Holland and Barrett was as follows:

"As you rightly say, Huntingdon Life Services (sic) have had adverse publicity for more than the past two and a half years."

"Several months ago, we sought advice from NatWest concerning their position and I enclose for your information a copy of their letter dated 27th September 1999. This indicates that your letter is factually incorrect."

"In the circumstance, it would seem that the appropriate steps to take in regard to animal testing are as recommended in the bank's letter."

That was all they had to say on the matter! To say HLS have had "adverse publicity" is an understatement. There was no mention of animal suffering in the letter which was the whole point of Andrew Tyler writing to them in the first place!

The NatWest letter that Holland and Barrett refer to is quoted from below:

"I am aware of the reports about cases of maltreatment: as an organisation we categorically do not condone cruelty to animals. However, animal testing is a legal activity subject to external regulation."

It's all very well saying you don't condone cruelty to animals. If lending £24.5 million to HLS isn't condoning animal cruelty then we don't know what is!!

HLS are licensed by the Home Office and are "inspected" by Home Office inspectors. It was proved on one investigation that the inspectors made pre-announced visits and when they were there they did not look at one single animal.

The two animal technicians caught on undercover camera punching beagles were prosecuted and convicted in a court of law - there's nothing legal about what they were doing while employed by HLS.

Here's the line in the newsletter which is most telling of all:

"In terms of social responsibility, NatWest must continually balance the interests of its various stakeholders."

Exactly, same old story, it's all about money. That's why pressure on NatWest through demonstrations and phoning is SO important.

ACTION

Write to Holland and Barrett and tell them how disgusted you are that they are willing to financially support barbaric and useless animal testing.

Through their account they will bring millions into NatWest who in turn profit from that money.

Tell Holland and Barrett that if they continue to bank with the NatWest then you will no longer shop at their stores. Urge Holland and Barrett that the only ethical course of action is to sever all ties with NatWest. If it was their necks on the line they would close their account with NatWest tomorrow! So they can do it!

Write to:
Barry Vickers,
Managing Director
H & B Retail Ltd
Samuel Ryder House
Townsend Drive
Nuneaton
Warks
CV11 6XW

Remember Holland and Barrett see you as a valuable customer. Animal Rights people tend to shop at Holland and Barrett because of their vegan & veggie food and toiletries sold there. They know their customers are ethically aware and they don't want to lose you. If they continue to use the NatWest then we will refuse to shop there and will support our local independent health food shop instead, and make sure everyone knows about Holland & Barrett's connection with the vivisection industry.

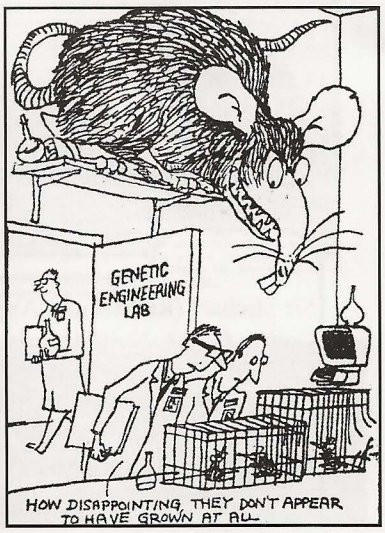
Do you know of any high profile groups, charities or companies who bank with the NatWest? Then please inform us, so we can persuade them to move their business away from the NatWest.

LOCAL GROUPS

Want to get more involved? Campaigning against animal abuse on a local level is the foundation of our campaign. Listed below are the areas where there is already a local group. Write into us at the SHAC address and we will put you in direct contact with campaigners in your area.

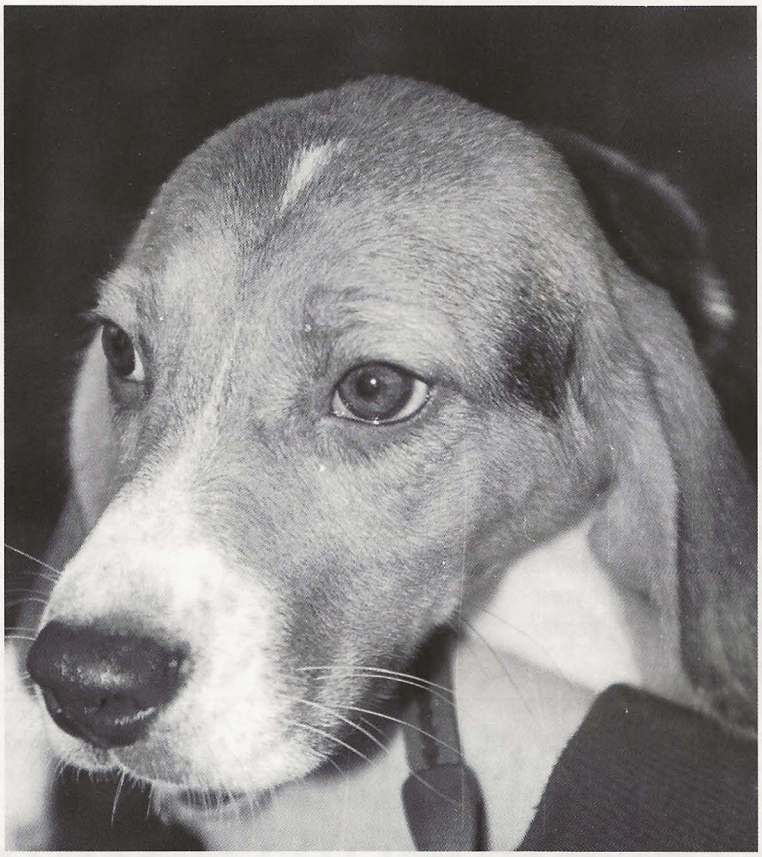
Edinburgh, Glasgow, Fife, Dundee, Leeds, Bradford, Hull, Manchester, South Pennines, Merseyside, Preston, Sheffield, York, Lincolnshire, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Southampton, Norfolk, Wolverhampton, Solihull, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Cardiff, Swansea, West Wales, Cambridge, Ipswich, Luton, High Wycombe, Colchester, London, Swindon, Kent, Brighton, Shoreham, Eastbourne, Southampton, Bournemouth, Dorset, Plymouth

Listed below are the areas we still need contacts for:
Carlisle, Reading, Portsmouth and Bath.
If you are part of an active local group not listed then please let us know.



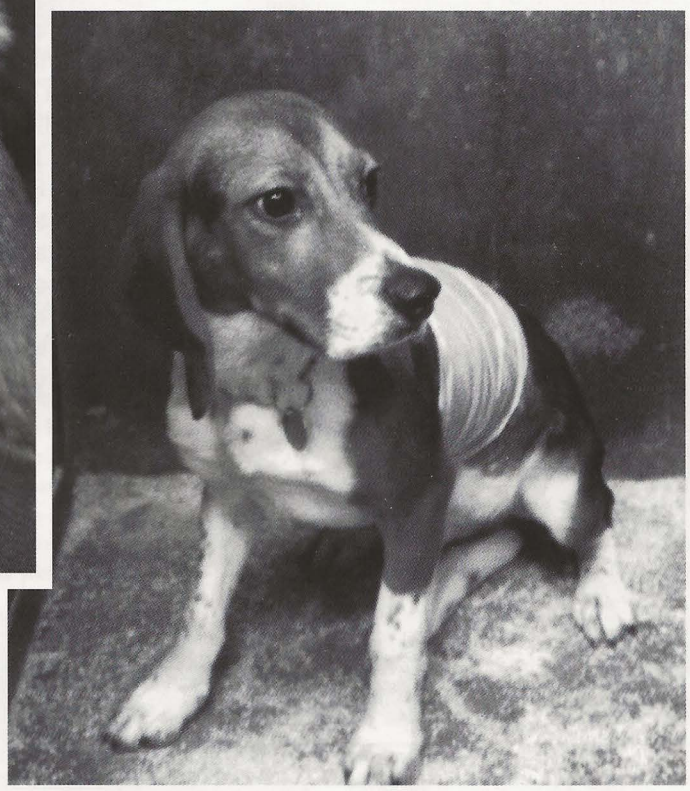
WORLD DAY FOR LAB ANIMALS

12 NOON 22nd APRIL 2000
at
HUNTINGDON LIFE SCIENCES



One of 71 beagles rescued from HLS's beagle supplier Interfauna.

A beagle imprisoned inside HLS. This dog was forced to endure very painful skin experiments. It is animals like this that we are fighting for.



◆THE BUILD UP BEGINS◆

"WORDS MEAN NOTHING ACTION IS EVERYTHING!"

Ring us on 0121 632 6460 for transport or let us know if you are running transport and have spaces.
A3 & A4 full colour posters and flyers available early February.

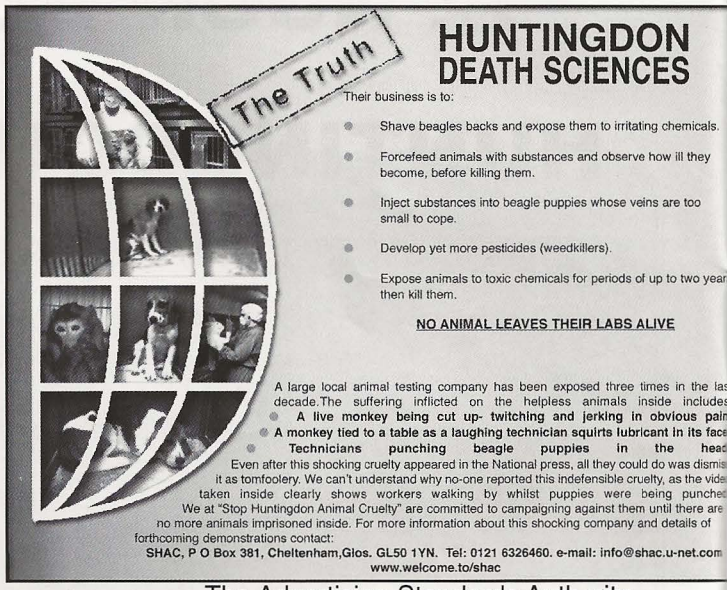
BLATANT PROPAGANDA

In a desperate attempt to improve their image HLS have sent their PR machine into overdrive. Below is part of an advert placed by HLS which was seen in The Hunts Post on Wednesday 1st December. It tells the public that HLS are only doing good for the environment, for people and for animals. The advert on the right is the one we took out to tell the people the truth about HLS.

We have made a formal complaint to the Advertising Standards Authority about HLS's advert.

The offending line is: "The welfare of our animals is of paramount importance to us..."

We have sent the ASA a copy of "Countryside Undercover - It's a Dog's Life" and one of our video which contains some of the New Jersey footage showing the barbaric treatment of the monkeys. We have supplied the ASA with the facts and the hard evidence about HLS's day-to-day cruelty. In our letter we mentioned that HLS's main area of "research" is toxicology where animals are routinely poisoned to death and no company can state animal "welfare" is important to them when animals are being killed in such a distressing way.



DON'T LET HLS GET AWAY WITH THESE LIES!

Please write to the ASA today and complain, just a few sentences will suffice. Please let us have a copy of your letter and any replies you receive.

The Advertising Standards Authority Ltd.
2 Torrington Place
London
WC1E 7HW
Tel. 0171 580 5555
Fax. 0171 631 3051

DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU SEE ON TV

Somebody taped a news item on Anglia TV for us which was shown on the Monday after the national demo. When we saw it we were livid! The whole item made out that HLS was some kind of holiday camp for monkeys!

The reporter said: "I was able to go anywhere I wanted on site...what used to be seen as a culture of secrecy has undoubtedly changed. Although some are still in cages many monkeys now live in family groups."

It was like watching an advertisement for HLS. The fact is the journalist concerned (Linda Fairbrother) didn't spend very long inside HLS. She certainly didn't look any further than the management at HLS wanted her to look. She obviously did not look into the eyes of the beagle puppies who were being slowly poisoned to death in a futile attempt to prove that a new version of weedkiller is safe to go on the market.

Even if the animals were housed in family groups it would not change the fact that animals are poisoned to death every single day. And every single day primates are strapped into restraining devices and forced to inhale toxic fumes. Horrific torture, misery and death is Huntingdon's day to day business. End of story.

We will not tolerate the public being deliberately misled by TV, newspapers or radio. As usual we are the only ones who can be relied upon to tell the truth.

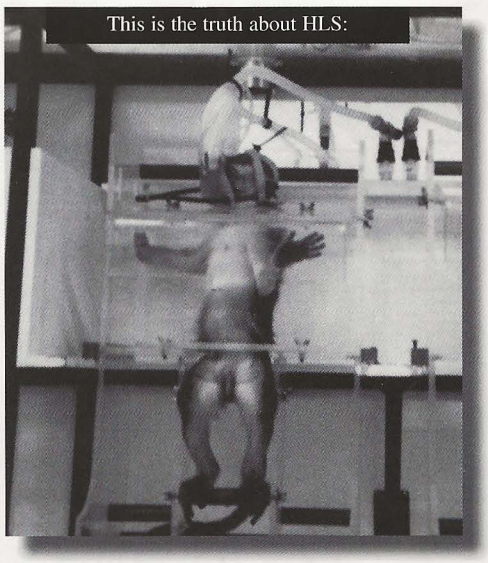
All the lies, propaganda and PR in the world can't change the truth.

Please write, ring and complain to the following organisations:

Anglia TV,
Anglia House, Norwich NG1 3JG
01603 615151

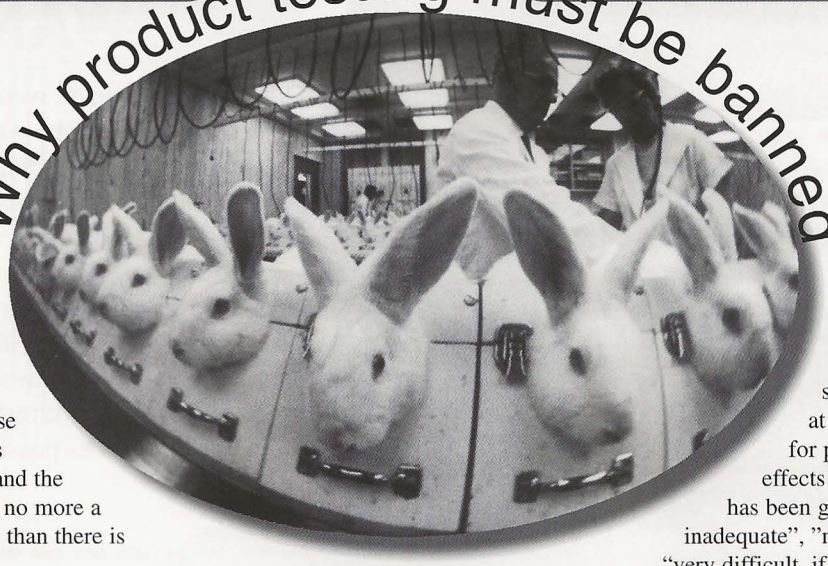
Independent Television Commission,
31 Foley St, London W1
0171 255 3000

Broadcasting Standards Commission,
7 The Sanctuary, London SW1P 2JS
0171 233 0544



POISON PUSHERS

Why product testing must be banned



Since the government withdrew support for cosmetic testing on animals, there are now no current licences for it. But still household and garden products are being tested on animals. These tests are as cruel and pointless as tests on shampoo and make up, and the majority of people agree there is no more a need for new cleaning chemicals than there is for new eye shadows.

POINTLESS

Commercial products are tested by smearing them on the eye, skin, or even under the skin of animals, or they may be forced into their stomachs. Sometimes animals are exposed to the fumes. Typical tests exposed recently involved beagles being force-fed weedkiller by tubes forced down the throat, despite the product having been in use for years.

Pointless tests like these give us nothing but pointless results. A fire extinguisher fluid was found to cause liver and kidney damage in animals, but not in humans. Petrol fumes caused kidney damage in male rats, but not in female rats or humans. A food additive was given to animals in such high doses that a human would have to eat 100 times their bodyweight in food to eat the same amount. Other tests gave animals such high doses a human would have to drink over 550 bottles of soft drink, or 500 pints of the spirit dry vermouth EVERY DAY to get the same levels.

FAILURE

Apart from the problem of using a different species there are other reasons why animal tests are a failure. Humans may use products for years, but animals only live for a short time in the lab. The way in which the substance is given to an animal affects the result. Even factors like bedding alter results - cancer rates of over 90% in one lab were compared with the same type in mice in another lab who hardly ever got cancer - and the cause was different wood used to make the sawdust!

On countless occasions the only conclusion from the experiment is that animals and humans are different. Besides, is it really that important that we find another food colouring or oven cleaner?

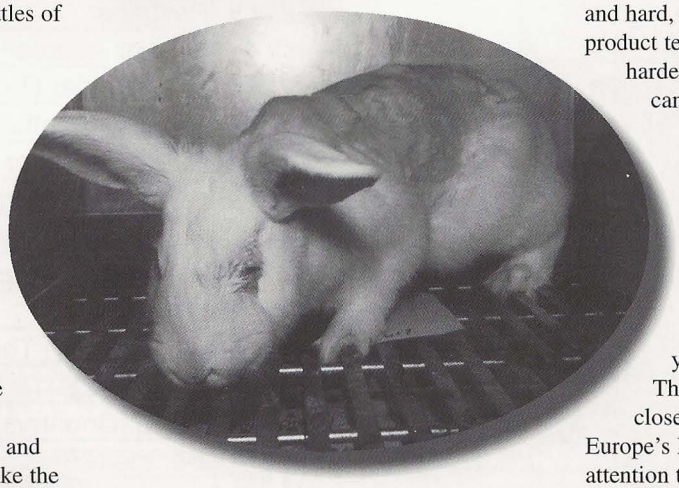
Any such experiment is doomed to failure because it uses the wrong species. Less than 2% of human illnesses are ever seen outside humanity, so it may be impossible to induce an illness caused by a test substance. Cancer researchers discovered that rats were so ineffective for identifying cancer-causing substances that they'd have been better off tossing a coin than using rats!

A spokesman for the BIBRA animal lab said in the 1980s that animal tests for food additives were: "...designed to produce animal test data sufficient to gain permission from governments for the use of additives." These tests contribute nothing to our safety at all.

DANGEROUS

But to say these tests are useless is generous. When you are using a method which is known to be unsafe to screen chemicals which might be dangerous, you are putting human health at risk. For example, benzene and asbestos - both killers if you are a human - pass as safe in animal tests.

Meanwhile, illness is on the increase. Cancer rates are rocketing at a rate that will leave



EVERYONE in this country with cancer in just 80 years unless it is slowed. In a ten year period, cancer rates in 5-15 year olds has almost tripled, while serious illness in children grew by 85%. Birth defects affected three in 100,000 babies at the end of the 1940s, now this rate is 800 per 100,000! Why?

If we continue to expose people to chemicals without first assessing their safety using a reliable method, we will put lives and health at risk. As with the testing of both cosmetics and medicines, animal experiments are worse than useless and can only result in animal and human suffering. Nobody wins. Look at the criticism that screening for potential cancer-causing effects in humans but using animals has been given. "Totally and absolutely inadequate", "not valid", "just nonsense", "very difficult, if not impossible, to extrapolate for human safety", "a dreadful mistake", "unscientific", "all guess." All these quotes came from people who do cancer research on animals - the people most likely to defend them! One animal experimenter sums up the attitude by responding to such criticism with: "The chief objective is to keep us all employed, and to make sure we do interesting experiments." Science doesn't come into it.

SUPPORT FOR A BAN

At the moment it seems that licences to test household products are given out like confetti at a wedding, at HLS and elsewhere, despite public concern, and criticism from every conceivable direction. There is enormous support for a ban on these tests, which may be the next major achievement we are likely to achieve in our battle to end vivisection.

The battle to finish cosmetic testing was long and hard, and the attempt to ban commercial product testing will be as difficult - maybe harder. In order to achieve this, everyone can help by doing two things.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

One is to learn why animal experiments don't work, and to challenge the claim that they do at every opportunity. Read your SHAC magazine and factsheets and learn the facts which prove the animal experimenters are lying. If you need more information, just ask!

The other is to do all you can to help close Huntingdon Life Sciences. Closing Europe's largest contract lab will draw attention to the matter and call for urgent government action to deal with this violent, cruel and dangerous world. With us all working together we can bring this ugly giant to its knees and force the authorities to act in recognition of the pointless torture of laboratory animals.

By
Chris Iles

MOBILE DEMOS

The key to exciting, effective mobile demos is phone contact. Before every demonstration please ring us with your mobile phone number so that we can stay in touch. You can ring 0121 632 6460 during the day as well to find out what is going on.

The key to exciting demos is mobile phone contact

WITNESSES WANTED

The following person would like any witnesses to come forward after she was arrested on 31/7/99 at the national Hillgrove demo in Witney.
She is a blonde, slim female in her 20's. She was wearing a GAP baseball cap, beige combats and a beige T-Shirt.
She was arrested just after 2pm during the crowd's alleged sit-down protest in the road, even though she moved over as far as she possibly could.
If you witnessed her arrest please contact the campaign as soon as possible.

VIDEOS, VIDEOS, VIDEOS...

Many of you have already seen the HLS video and know what a huge impact it has on people who watch it. Once you have seen that footage, it is with you for the rest of your life and renews your determination to close HLS for good. If you would like a video please let us know. We have three different videos so please let us know which one you require:
1. Short - Approx. 5 minutes. Explanation of HLS and undercover footage of animal abuse at HLS.
2. Long - Approx. 7 minutes. Same as the short video above but with demo footage from Consort and Hillgrove - good for motivating people to come on demos.
3. Countryside Undercover - Approx. 25 minutes. A copy of the full programme shown on Channel Four. This video details the undercover investigation that brought HLS to it's knees.

USEFUL NUMBERS

Unfortunately there were 17 arrests at the last Huntingdon demo (not bad out of 500 people).
If you are arrested please let us know and keep us informed of your progress. We won't abandon you if you have missed your transport home, we can arrange for someone to pick you up and get you home one way or another.
If you are arrested you only have to tell the police your name, address and date of birth. We advise you not to say anything else to the police without a solicitor present. This includes any informal chat with police in the back of the van or at the police station. This may appear innocent and harmless but it is normally just a thinly disguised plot to get information out of you.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SPEAK TO THE POLICE,
SO DON'T DO IT.

Here are three firms of solicitors experienced with animal rights cases:
Tim Greene - Birnberg & Pearce Solicitors - 0171 911 0166
Tim Walker - Christian Fisher Solicitors - 0171 831 1750(07977 129267 on demo days)
Kevin Tomlinson - Kieran & Co. Solicitors - 01246 559065

ORDER FORM

Every item on this page will be supplied free of charge except for T-shirts which cost £5 and Hooded Sweatshirts which cost £15.
If you have an e-mail address, please include this on the order form

Item	*Quantity*
HLS Leaflets	
HLS Factsheets	
HLS Poster (A2)	
HLS Badges	
HLS Stickers	
Genetics Leaflets	
Demo Posters	
Petitions	
Worker Address Flyer	
Shareholder Posters	
NatWest Leaflets	
NatWest Poster (as leaflet but A4)	
Large NatWest Poster (as leaflet but A2)	
NatWest Stickers	
NatWest Badges	
Whistles	
Video: HLS - The Truth (Short)	
Video: HLS - The Truth (Long)	
Video: Countryside Undercover	
T-shirts (£5)	
Hooded Tops (£15)	
DONATION	£
TOTAL COST	£

Name.....
Address.....
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Post Code.....
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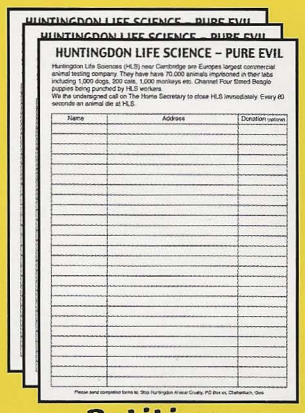
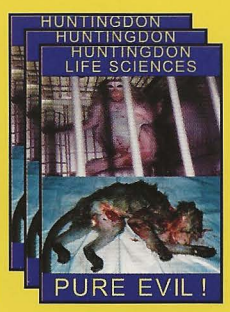
E-mail.....

MERCHANDISE

Factsheet

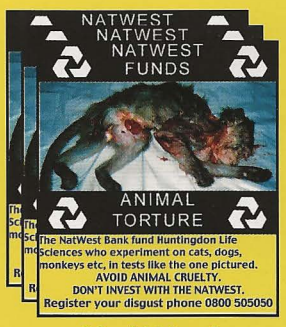


Petition



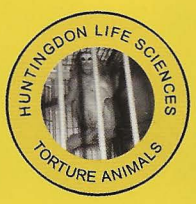
HLS Leaflet

NatWest Leaflet

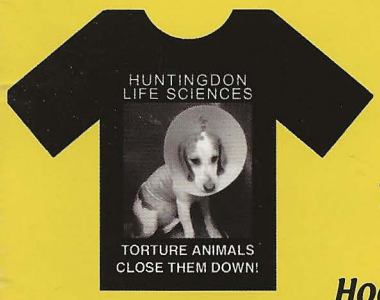


NatWest Sticker

NatWest Badge



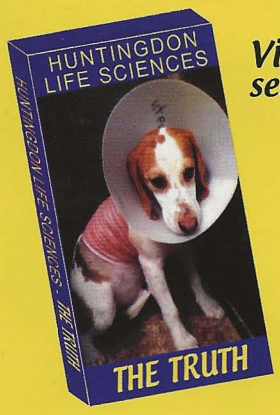
HLS Badge



Front

T-shirt + Hooded Top

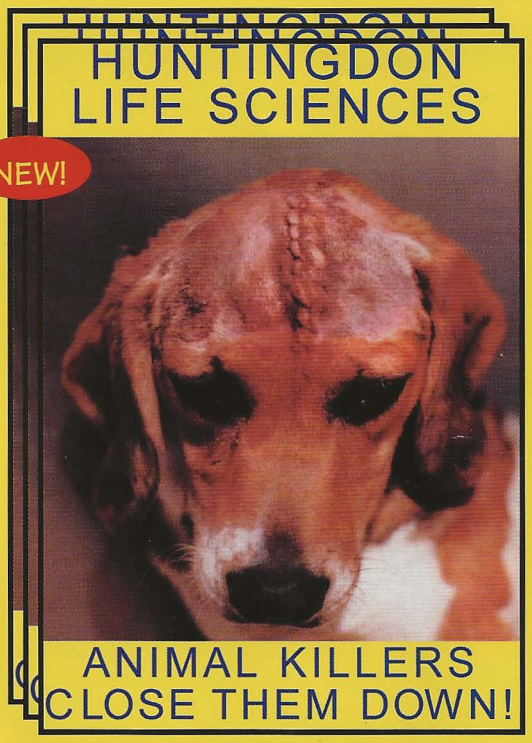
Back



Video
see page 18

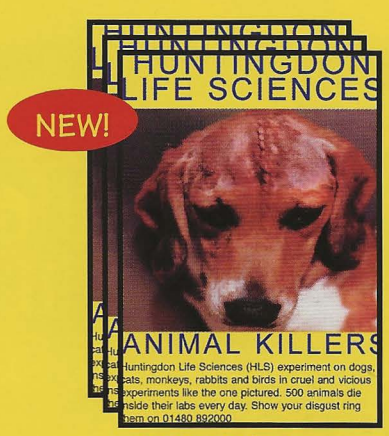
Genetics Leaflet

This leaflet explains HLS's involvement in the testing of GMOs, toxic chemicals and Xenotransplantation.

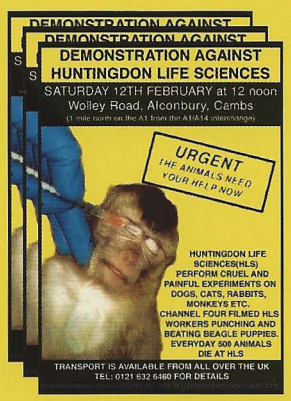


HLS A2 Poster

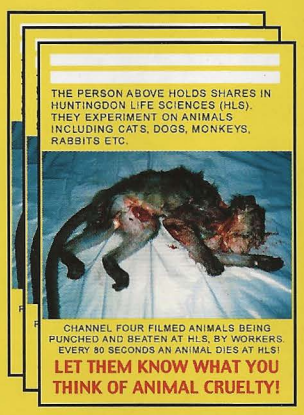
Worker Address Flyer



HLS Sticker



Demo Poster



Shareholder Poster

This is one of 71 beagle puppies rescued from HLS's beagle supplier in late 1999. This dog would have died in pain. We fight so that all animals see this beautiful freedom.

REMEMBER WE ALWAYS WIN!